

SSU R&E Conference 2014: Public Engagement

Over The Fence:

Lessons from participating in the:

OED Appeals

And

Words from the First World War

Bryn Parry

Began, as a *Coffee-break* activity:

- justifying some databases - *Library* acquired
- road-testing the *Solent Method of Critical Thinking*
- exploring *Digital Research* skills - breaking out of the `Google bubble'
- choosing a sector / theme where I was naive - but readers were `expert'

Table of Contents

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The Solent Method of Critical Thinking

- Examples of the Solent Method
- What is critical thinking?
- Why is critical thinking important?
- Would the ability to think critically affect the grades a student gets?
- How do you develop critical thinking skills?

Critical thinking
The Solent Method of Critical Thinking

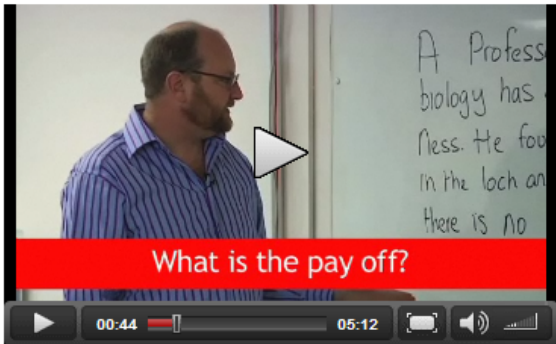
A group of academics in Southampton Solent University put their heads together and thought through the issue of 'How can we make critical thinking understandable and achievable for our students?'. The solution they came up with was a set of four questions that form the **Solent Method of Critical Thinking**.

The four questions are:

1. Are the reasons true?
2. Do the reasons support the pay off?
3. Do the reasons support other conclusions?
4. Are other reasons missing?

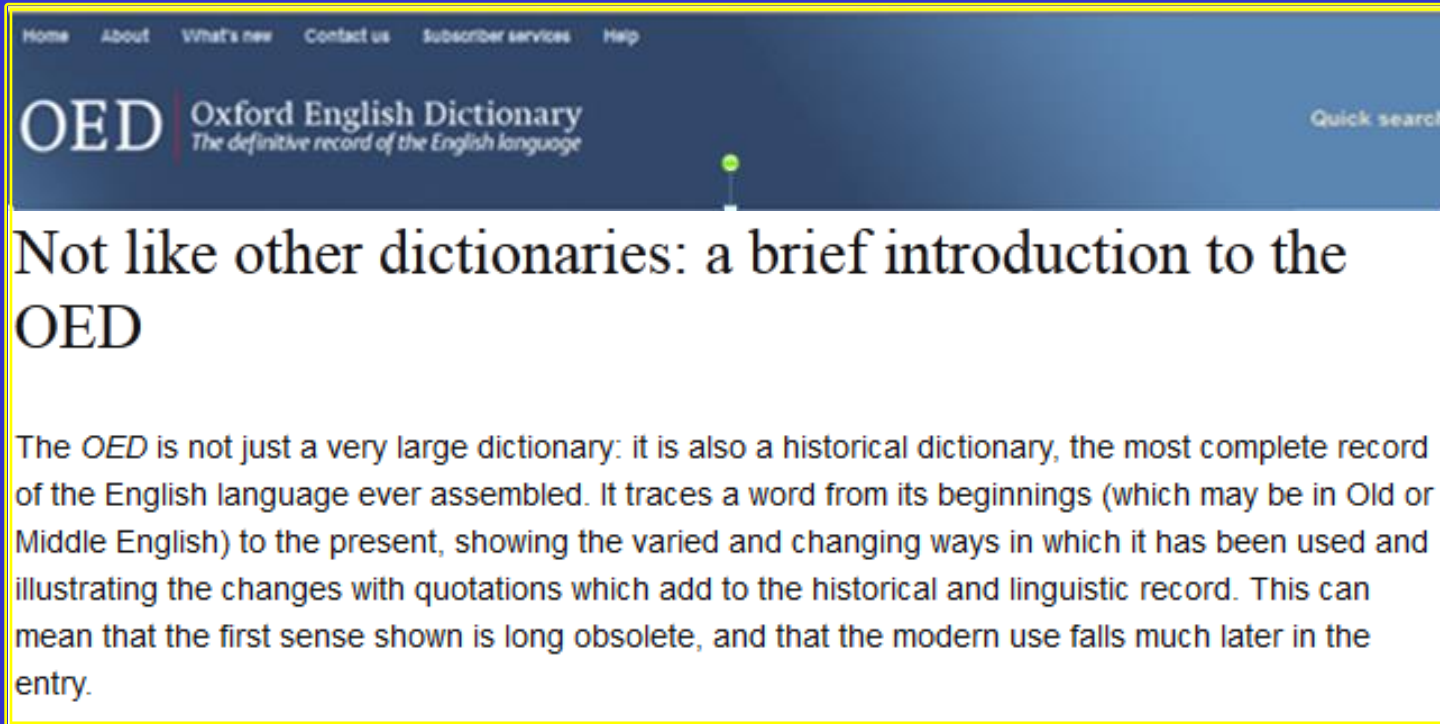
Watch this video in which Steven Henderson explains why we use these four questions.

The Solent Method - Are there monsters in Loch Ness?



Oxford English Dictionary

- <http://public.oed.com/about/frequently-asked-questions/> -



The screenshot shows the top of the Oxford English Dictionary website. The header is dark blue with white text for navigation links: Home, About, What's new, Contact us, Subscriber services, and Help. Below the navigation bar is the OED logo and the text 'Oxford English Dictionary' and 'The definitive record of the English language'. A 'Quick search' button is visible on the right. The main content area is white and features a large heading 'Not like other dictionaries: a brief introduction to the OED'. Below the heading is a paragraph of text describing the OED as a historical dictionary.

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OED | Oxford English Dictionary
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Quick search

Not like other dictionaries: a brief introduction to the OED

The *OED* is not just a very large dictionary: it is also a historical dictionary, the most complete record of the English language ever assembled. It traces a word from its beginnings (which may be in Old or Middle English) to the present, showing the varied and changing ways in which it has been used and illustrating the changes with quotations which add to the historical and linguistic record. This can mean that the first sense shown is long obsolete, and that the modern use falls much later in the entry.

OED strives to be an historical dictionary – offering the evolution of terms and usages, as well as the definition

Databases: mining new caverns of English

One of the most remarkable changes in the world of historical lexicography since the 1980s and 1990s has been the proliferation of large-scale, searchable databases of historical text. It is now possible to search much of the raw data of lexicography from one's pc or laptop (whether one is an *OED* editor or a general researcher).

It is invidious, as usual, to select particular databases, but some of the oldest and most valuable databases for lexical research include (many accessible on a subscription-only basis):

- Early English Books Online
- Eighteenth Century Collections Online
- Times Digital Archive
- British Newspapers 1800-1900
- Google Books

This change has had far-reaching effects for historical lexicography, dramatically improving the quality of documentary evidence available to editors. As a result, it is possible to have more confidence in the reliability of lexical documentation than it was in the past.

Largely as a result of the availability of this data, *OED* editors have moved from being able to antedate roughly 30% of the words and senses of the dictionary in 2000 to (now) providing earlier attestations for around 60% of all words and senses in the dictionary.

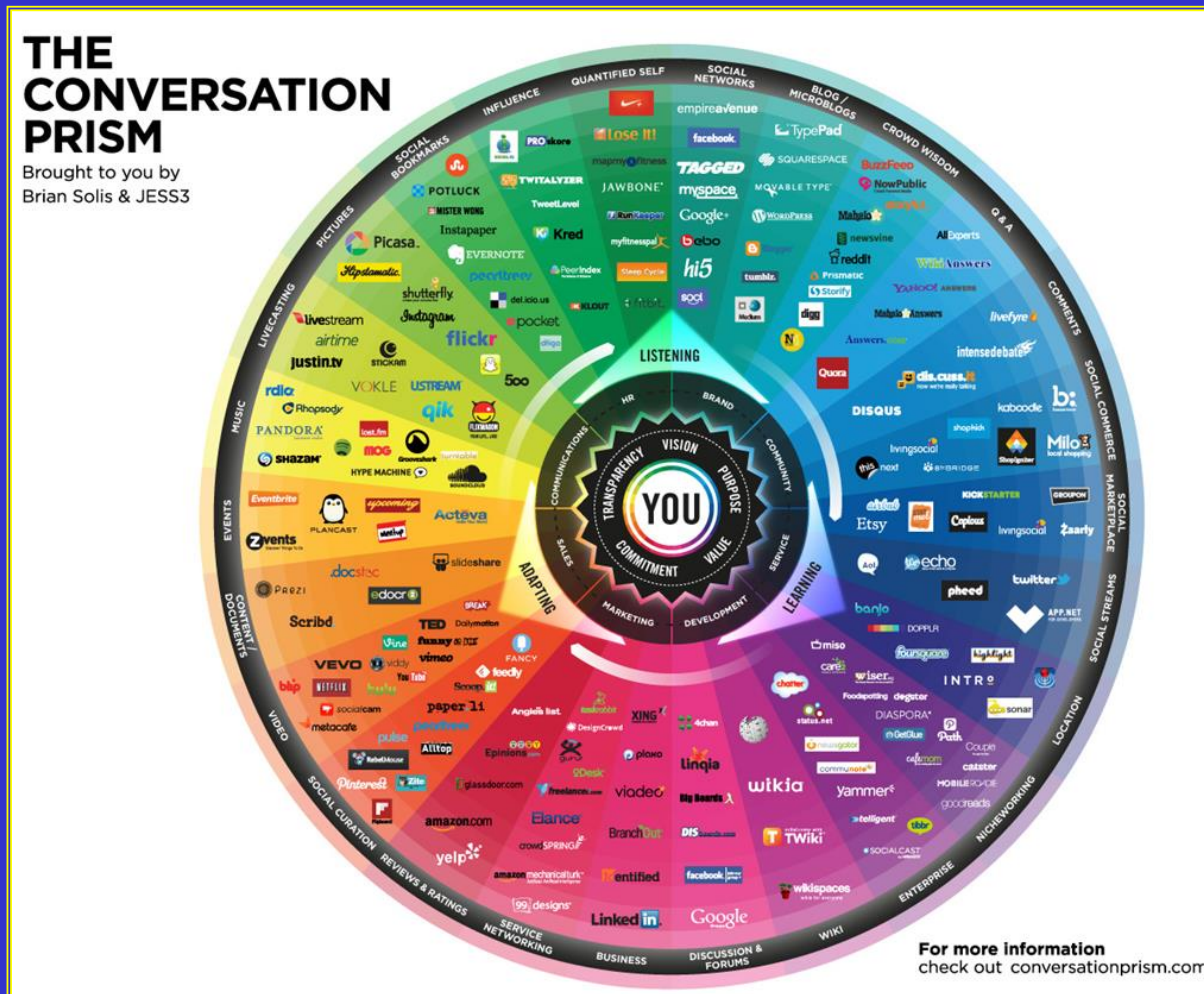
Contributions: words from the Democratic Republic of English Worldwide

Beginning in 1859 the *OED* has appealed to the public for information about words, and since then the general public (as well as scholars and researchers) have been generous in their contributions to the dictionary.

Recent additions to the dictionary from public contributions:
atom bomb: back from 1945 to 1920 (referring to H. G. Wells)
meet-and-greet (as a noun): back from 1981 to 1960
Molly dancer: back from 1903 to 1881
pork-barrelling: back from 1941 to 1921, and then further back to 1910


2013 Social Media Landscape

- https://conversationprism.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/JESS3_BrianSolis_ConversationPrism4_WEB_1280x1024.jpg -
- <http://www.linkedin.com/today/post/article/20130702182512-2293140-social-media-is-hard-the-landscape-of-social-networks-in-one-infographic> -




OED Appeals: <http://public.oed.com/appeals/disc-jockey/>

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Do you have an earlier record of a word which our editors are currently researching? Please submit your evidence in the comments. *Find out more »*

Mathematick Rules unknown source

OED editors are revising the word dialler n. and have researched a previously unrecorded sense, 'a maker of, or expert in, sundials', for potential inclusion. In attempting to find the earliest evidence for this sense, we encountered a mystery. Alice Morse Earle's 1902 book *Sun Dials and Roses of Yesterday* includes, as an epigraph to Chapter [...]


Posted by OED_Editor **on** 3 April 2014 20.16
Tags: [1600s](#), [Bibliography](#)
Comments: [4](#)

skive earlier than 1919

One military slang word from the First World War which has become a core part of modern colloquial English in the UK is skive, meaning 'to avoid work'. Our first quotation at present is from a 1919 magazine article, which lists 'some of the most universal and expressive Army terms': 'To skive', to dodge a [...]

Posted by OED_Editor **on** 21 February 2014 15.23
Tags: [1910s](#), [WWI](#)
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[Appeals News: Words from the First World War](#)
Posted by OED_Editor
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Chand Stickland 28 April 2014 20.51
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When I was an undergraduate I wrote a dissertation on John Napier including one of his non-mathematical works on numerology and magic. This was an exegesis of the Book of [...]

Shane Mawe 28 April 2014 12.03
[Mathematick Rules](#)
John Spottiswood's 'History of the church in Scotland (Wing / S5022) refers to Dialectick as a subject - "time well spent in Dialectick Mathematick Ethick O.L. 1


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 **disc jockey** noun earlier than 1941

The term *disc jockey* (a person who introduces and plays recorded popular music on the radio) was first added to the *OED* in the 1972 *Supplement*. At the time, our first example came from the American entertainment trade magazine *Variety*, in August 1941. Our researchers have since found a slightly earlier example in the same publication:

Disc jockey solves vacation. Turning a program over to the public while the emcee is vacationing is big stuff from a listener's angle, WEBR is finding. 1941 *Variety* 23 July, p. 34

However, there is a persistent suggestion (found online as well as in print sources) that this term was **coined by the American newspaper columnist Walter Winchell in 1935**. *OED* researchers have investigated, but have not found any evidence supporting the story. The **earliest association between Winchell and the word *disc jockey* uncovered by our researchers appears in a publication from almost 50 years after the purported coinage, in 1984** (promoting, perhaps not coincidentally, the 50th anniversary of the radio station WNEW, and asserting that the term had first been applied to one of its **DJs, Mark Block**). That, combined with the fact that *Variety* had previously (in 1940) printed the phrase *record jockey*, makes the magazine a much more likely candidate as the popularizer of the term. Still, before putting the matter to rest, we wanted to make an appeal: can you find any evidence of the term *disc jockey* being used before 1941?

Posted by OED_Editor **on** 21 February 2013 13.06
Comments: [3](#)

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 Indicates an 'inconsistency'

OED Appeals: *Meanderings of Memory* appeal goes viral

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJ4pPiybNnA> -
- <http://public.oed.com/appeals/meanderings-of-memory/> -

The video shows a screenshot of the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) website. At the top, it says 'RACHEL MADDOX' and 'msnbc'. The main heading is 'OED Oxford English Dictionary'. Below that, the word 'revirginize, v.' is displayed. The definition is 'To render virginal again; to purify or renew.' Below the definition, there is a section titled '1852 "NIGHTLARK" *Meanderings of Memory*'. The video player interface at the bottom shows the video is 3:33 / 5:20 long. The video title is 'Oxford English Dictionary Wants To Know Have YOU Read This ...'. The channel is 'MOXNEWSd0tCOM' with 12,021 videos. The video has 1,135 views, 28 likes, and 5 dislikes. There is a 'Subscribe' button and a subscriber count of 64,499.

RACHEL MADDOX msnbc

OED Oxford English Dictionary

revirginize, v.

To render virginal again; to purify or renew.

1852 "NIGHTLARK" *Meanderings of Memory*

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OED Appeals - Meanderings of Memory: <http://public.oed.com/appeals/meanderings-of-memory/>

[1913] Catalogue of London Library: <http://archive.org/stream/catalogueoflondonc01londonuoft/page/n11/mode/2up>

<p>1840-1841: PRINCE ALBERT (1841-41). HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII (1901-1910); (AS PRINCE OF WALES 1861-1901). HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V (1910).</p>		
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- did not expect

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Abstract

Submission of dating evidence for first usages of words and phrases, for the Oxford English Dictionary - including: "Gangster", "To Manage Expectations", "Numpty", "Ew", "Mani-Pedi", "Carbo-Load[ing] / Carbohydrate Loading", "low rider", "Disc Jockey", "Headhunter", "D-I-Y", "GAP year" "CIA: The Company", "Superpipe", "Door-buster", "Demon bowler", "Luvvie", "Long Island Iced Tea", "Meanderings of Memory" [antedating first-usages], "Something for the weekend", "Suicide (drill)", "Heart attack on a plate", "Cludgie", "oojamaflop", "backwash", "jolly hockey sticks"

=====

Evidence for a [1953] usage of "D.I.Y" accepted - an antedating of two years

=====

Evidence for a [1984] usage of "Heart attack on a plate" accepted - an antedating of 18 months

=====

Evidence for a [1978] usage of "Gap Year" accepted - an antedating of some six years

=====

Evidence for a [1985] usage of "Backwash" accepted - an antedating of some three years

=====

Evidence for a [1969] usage of "Oojamaflop" accepted - an antedating of a few weeks and confirmation of context

=====

Evidence for a [1953] usage of "CIA: The Company" accepted - an antedating of some 13 years

=====

Evidence for a [1946] usage of "deejay" accepted [also, for "DJ"] - an antedating of some nine years

=====

Evidence for a [1966] usage of "low rider" accepted - an antedating of some two years

=====

Evidence for a [1943] usage of "headhunter" accepted - an antedating of some seven years [from previous OED Appeals discovery]

=====

Evidence for an interim [1975] usage of "mani-pedi" accepted

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2 February 2014 Last updated at 01:37



The English expressions coined in WW1



World War One gave rise to expressions and slang such as mighty and cushy, but only some are still used, says Kate Wild, senior assistant editor of the Oxford English Dictionary.


In today's
Magazine

leppes in a cloud, anyone? Toot sweet! But liberty cabbage - no

The grief equation

Australians Seem To Get Balance Of Collaboration / Exchanging / Informing Right

- <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/103416221?searchTerm=zeppelin%20sausage%20mash&searchLimits=sortBy=dateAsc%E2%80%9D> -

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The Arrow (Sydney, NSW : 1896 - 1912) (about) Saturday 18 September 1909 Page 16

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UP-TO-DATE.

Our Friend, Jerry Tompkins, leisurely took a seat in the Signor's refreshment house.

'Yessair ?' inquired the waiter hurrying up.

'H'm !' grunted Jerry glancing down the bill of fare. 'Let me see—toad-'n-hole, bubble-'n-squeak; let me see. H'm ! give me two sausages and mashed, waiter, and plenty of gravy.'

'Ver' good sair !'

The polite waiter applied himself to the speaking tube : 'Two Zeppelin airships on a cloud !' he bellowed down, and make zem rainy !'—W. R. AMES, Essex street, Gordon.

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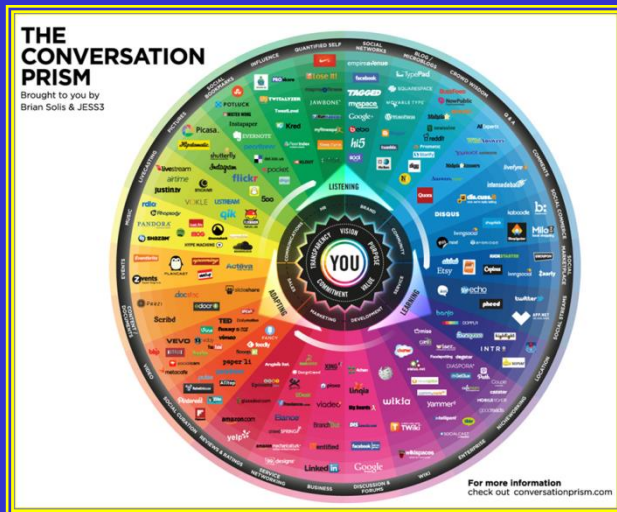
THE TABLES TURNED.

A lady visitor to Rothesay was bathing, and was on the point of drowning, when a boatman, who is a local wag, went to

Blending Collaboration / Exchanging / Informing

Plural of Octopus ?

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFyY2mK8pxk> -



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